

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of

Andrew M. Rudoff

Serial No.: NYA

Group Art Unit: NYA

Filed: July 13, 2003

Examiner: NYA

For: MECHANISM FOR REPLICATING AND  
MAINTAINING FILES IN A SPACE-  
EFFICIENT MANNER

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examining the above-referenced application, please amend the application  
as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please insert the following paragraph at the beginning of the Specification:

This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/764,168,  
entitled MECHANISM FOR REPLICATING AND MAINTAINING FILES IN A  
SPACE-EFFICIENT MANNER, filed on January 16, 2001.